


Serving up
a hot cup of
controversy

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Shiver with
Antici.....
Pation

Page



France calls for U.S., Russia to unite to fight Islamic State

By: MATTHEW SCHOFIELD and ROY GUTMAN, McClatchy Foreign Staff

PARIS-Three days after declaring that France was at war with the Islamic State, French President Francois Hollande called Monday on the rest of the civilized world to join in turning up the heat on “these despicable cowards.”

Whether other nations would join his call was uncertain. In a speech delivered at the same time in Antalya, Turkey, President Barack Obama told reporters at the conclusion of the G-20 conference that the current U.S. strategy against the Islamic State had been successful. He made clear he was not going to send U.S. ground troops to Syria.

“Every few months I go to Walter Reed,” he said, referring to the military hospital complex outside Washington. “And I see a 25-year-old kid that is paralyzed or has lost his limbs. And some of those are people I’ve ordered into battle.”

Russian President Vladimir Putin, also speaking after the G-20 conference, said the world had to work together to stop the terrorist state, but he emphasized attacking its financing, not its military structure. “According to our information, 40 countries are involved in the funding, including some G-20 nations,” Putin said. He said that he named those countries during the G-20 meetings but that he would not do so in public.

Hollande, however, made it clear he was seeking collective action. He called for a meeting of the U.N. Security Council and urged Russia and the United States to put aside their



Paris residents take part in a moment of silence under the Eiffel Tower on Monday, Nov. 16, in observance of those who died during the terrorist attacks three days ago. Holding a French flag with the words “Liberty, Equality, Brotherhood,” participants stand united during a minute of silence.

differences over Syria to work together against the Islamic State.

Speaking to a rare joint session of the French National Assembly at Versailles Palace, Hollande insisted France would not be bowed by the attacks Friday that left 129 dead and more than 350 injured. He asked the assembly to extend the current state of emergency from 12 days to three months and vowed to

“eradicate terrorism.”

“Our democracy has triumphed over much more dangerous opponents,” he said.

“We are not involved in a war of civilizations, because these murderers represent no civilization,” he said. “We are at war against jihadist terrorism, which is a threat to the whole world.”

The speech came on a day when Paris again mourned the dead, stopping for a minute of

silence at noon. Around the city, on the Champs d’Elysee, in churches, in offices and in schools, people stood silently and reflected on the events from three days earlier.

Hollande joined those paying respects at the University of Paris’s Sorbonne building in the city’s Latin Quarter. He said in his Versailles speech that was because most of those killed Friday were young, under age 30.

On Monday, French officials made clear that they view Friday night’s attack as an international conspiracy. They said that 168 homes in France and Belgium have been searched for evidence linked to the attacks and that 23 people have been taken into custody. Police said that among the weapons recovered in the raids were automatic rifles and a rocket launcher.

See France, Page 3

MU president steps down amid racial tension

By: DANIELLE STALLWORTH

Tensions continue to run high at the University of Missouri following the resignations of the school’s president and chancellor on Monday, Nov. 9.

MU students agree that everything began with a number of incidents involving racial slurs being thrown at black students. This started with Student Government President Payton Head, who made a Facebook post detailing his experience being called the N-word by several white males in a passing truck.

President Tim Wolfe had received many complaints from students of the Columbia, Mo. campus. Wolfe remained indifferent to reports of these racial slurs and a swastika drawn with feces in a dorm bathroom.

In October, a protest group called Concerned Student 1950 confronted President Wolfe while blocking his car in a homecoming parade. Wolfe refused to acknowledge them and some claim that the car in which he was riding nicked one

of the students as it drove away. Protesters later caught up with Wolfe and asked for his opinion on systematic oppression.

“Systematic oppression is because you don’t believe that you have the equal opportunity for success,” he answered as protesters passionately disagreed.

Outrage spread through the school as Wolfe continued to ignore the racial incidents. To protest, students camped out in tents all over campus. Graduate student Jonathan Butler went on a hunger strike and soon weakened from lack of food.

At least 30 MU football players stepped forward and pledged not to play until Wolfe resigned. According to their coach, Gary Pinkel, a lot of them were concerned for Butler’s life. Even though canceling the game against Brigham Young University would cost the school \$1 million, they had his full support. Pinkel recently announced that he will be resigning at the end of the season due to health reasons.

It was the football team’s refusal to play that truly tipped the scales in the MU controversy. The story then gained national attention, and Wolfe had no choice but to step down. He announced his resignation the morning of Nov. 9. By the afternoon, Loftin had done the same.

“I take full responsibility for this frustration, and I take full responsibility for the inaction that has occurred,” Wolfe said after a meeting of the University Board of Curators. “Please use my resignation to heal, not to hate.”

Retired administrator Michael Middleton was appointed interim president for the university afterwards. Loftin was originally going to remain chancellor until the end of the year but instead took a different university position and was replaced by Hank Foley.

Threats towards black students have appeared on the anonymous social media app, Yik Yak. Hunter M. Park, a



A protestor is part of a wall that Concerned Students 1950 created to block the media from entering the camp during the Concerned Students 1950 protest on Monday, Nov. 9 2015, in Columbia, Mo. Concerned Students 1950 is a group named after the first year that black students were allowed to attend MU

sophomore at the Missouri University of Science and Technology, is one of three people arrested for making terroristic threats targeting the Columbia campus on various social media outlets.

Due to these recent events, numerous black and minority students at MU are staying away from the campus and have expressed that they do not feel safe or respected there. Middleton says he understands their frustrations but hopes that everyone at MU can remain optimistic about the future.

Hello. My name is: Merry Christmas

By: LAURA POYTHRESS



A few customers have reacted against Starbucks' controversial cup design by giving the name "Merry Christmas" to their drink orders.

Unless you have been hiding under a rock, you know Starbucks is at the center of an extra hot topic on social media. This is thanks to a former pastor posting an inflamed video of himself on Facebook, trying to convince others that Starbucks is attacking Christmas. As an employee of that company, I was intrigued.

The claim of an attack is based solely on the fact that Starbucks' holiday season cups are red.

Of course, the video went viral with more than 10 million views, and the average person, religious or not, knew Joshua Feuerstein was wrong. But there were still people who were clueless and willing to blindly follow Joshua's instructions to "trick" baristas into writing "Merry Christmas" on the cups.

Starbucks employees ask for customers' names as a method of connecting with or getting to know them. We also write names on cups to help customers identify their own drinks when we are finished making them. You would be amazed at the number of people who order a hot drink, see a frozen drink on the hand-off counter and then ask "Is this mine?" We are doing our part to help keep out confusion. If everyone's name were the same, there would be no point in asking for their names.

If even five people in a row

came into Starbucks and responded with "Merry Christmas" when I asked their names, it would create confusion for them. They would be stealing each other's drinks because they use their name to identify their own drink.

Moreover, plenty of the baristas celebrate Christmas and do not care that the cups are just red. Many baristas are just glad the cups are not confusingly plastered with graphics that make it difficult for us to identify what we are supposed to make. Additionally, we are people, too. We are not mindless robots. We are snarky and don't like being disrespected or treated like we have done something to harm our customers when we have not.

Some baristas, on the few occasions they have for writing the cheerful phrase on cups, spell it in various ways. "Mary Christmas," "Murry Chri-muh" and "Mary Krississ" are just a few examples.

There's more, though. Starbucks sells advent calendars and Christmas blend coffee, as well as a wide variety of other Christmas themed gift cards and mugs. To say Starbucks is trying to take Jesus or Christmas out of this time of year is the most absurd thing that could be said of a company that depends on Christmas blend coffee sales to bring them a year-end boost.

Another point that needs to be made is that Starbucks has never claimed to be a faith-based company. They celebrate all religions and lifestyles. If the church has a problem with them not singling out Christianity, they can shop elsewhere and truly boycott them. After all, this is the first boycott I have heard of that made news while actually bringing more money and attention to a company.

The most important point that needs to be addressed is that this has picked up so much attention on social media, but only a very small handful of customers have entered Starbucks and told baristas their name is Merry Christmas.

Christians are being mocked for being upset over a cup being red because one pastor posted an inflammatory video about it. I work nearly 30 hours per week and have only encountered one customer, out of thousands, who wished I would write a phony name for him.

I think the most accurate portrayal of this whole ordeal is the trending photo of an empty field with the caption "group photo of everyone upset about Starbucks cups being just red."

You are more likely to find a large collection of baristas who are tired of customers asking about this non-issue.



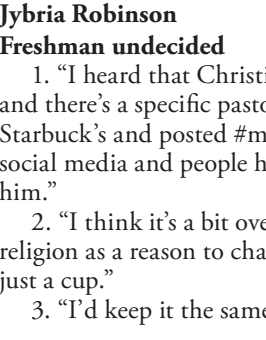
with Madison Griggs

1. What have you heard about Starbucks' new red holiday cups?
2. What is your personal reaction to their reason for changing the cups?
3. If you were the president of Starbucks, how would you respond to the uproar?



Lily Womack
Freshman Political Science major

1. "People are saying it's a war on Christmas."
2. "I think it's reasonable, if I owned a business I wouldn't isolate potential customers."
3. "I think they did a good cover up with the 'draw your own story' thing. If you want to be angry you'll be angry."



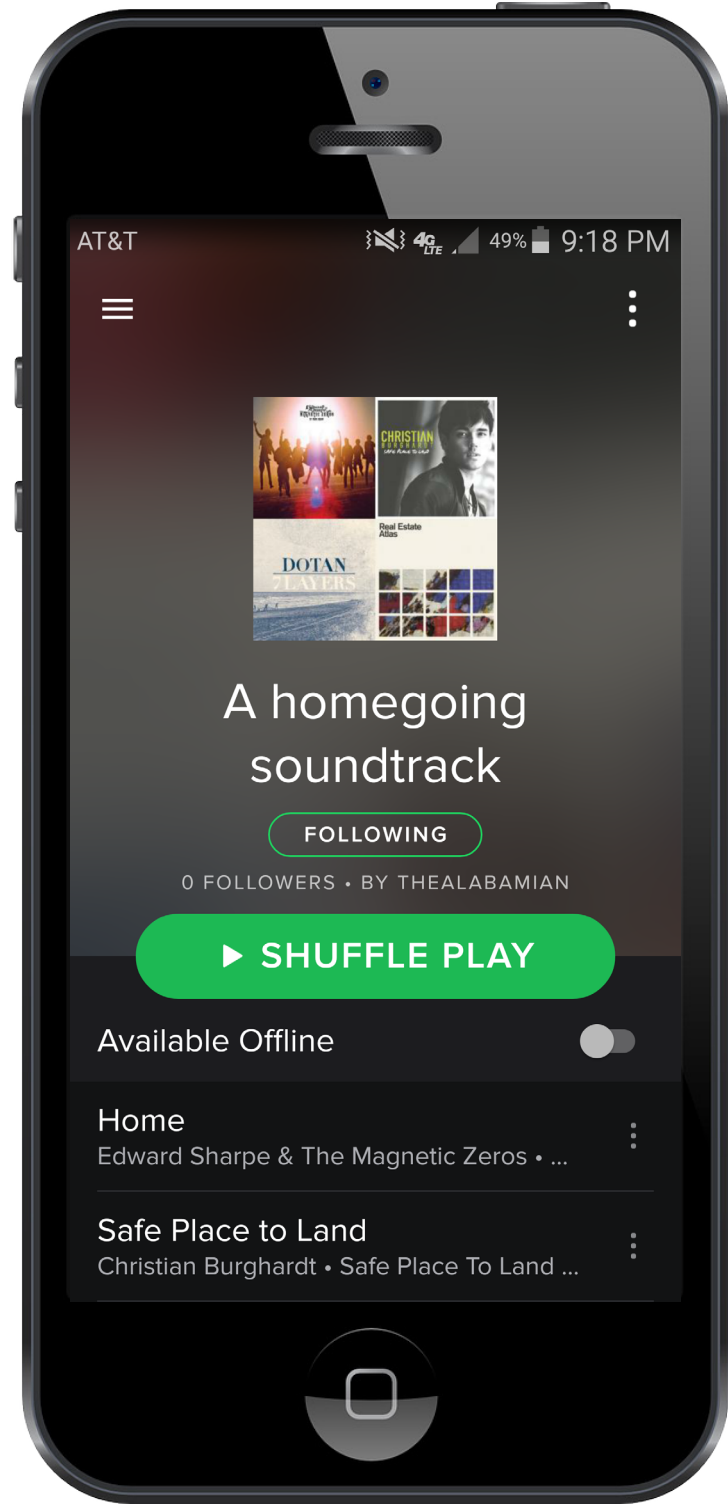
Jybria Robinson
Freshman undecided

1. "I heard that Christians are really mad, and there's a specific pastor who went into Starbucks and posted #merrychristmas on social media and people have been following him."
2. "I think it's a bit overboard using religion as a reason to change their cups. It's just a cup."
3. "I'd keep it the same."



Marcellus Thomas
Grad student, mental health counseling

1. "I haven't heard anything about it."
2. "I'm a Christian. I want to see Christmas ornaments or whatever on the cups, but if you're Islamic or atheist some people might get offended and some people won't. It depends on the person. If it's not detrimental to the company why change it."
3. "I would try to correct it and get the customers involved. If they don't care about it, leave it. If they want it back, give it back. You can't please everybody. Majority rules."



Spotify Playlist

"Home" - Edward Sharpe and the Magnetic Zeros

Like the title suggests, this song is perfectly reminiscent of the elements of home that make it worth visiting. The playful duet of male and female voice evokes the feelings of home being "wherever I'm with you." The steady, rolling beat projects vivid images of the rhythm of traveling back to the place where one feels safe and warm - the circular patterns of the song are the wheels that bear you home.

"Safe Place to Land"- Christian Burghardt

With an overarching theme of having a place one can return to when in need of comfort, it's hard not to relate this track back to returning home after a semester away. Burghardt's tender intonation, accompanied by an upbeat instrumental, only aids in providing a sense of warmth and familiarity to the song.

"Home"-Dotan

The combination of a steady drum beat and strum pattern creates an earthy tone, perfect for the Thanksgiving season. With the addition of the lyrics, the luxury of returning home in the midst of the impending chaos of approaching finals is brought to the forefront. You'll "be crying for mercy" but reassured that you are "going home now" by a harmonious, chorus that tugs at the heartstrings.

"Past Lives"-Real Estate

This easy going tune is the sonic equivalent of the warm, longing nostalgia one feels when visiting a familiar place. The lyrics simultaneously recognize the power of past memories and the sad realization that going home won't replicate them.

"Outfit"-Drive-By-Truckers

Driven by the Truckers' triple threat guitar brigade, this tune is

packed with stern but loving familial advice straight out of a father's mouth. "Don't act like your family's a joke," Jason Isbell sings, and you know you never will.

"When I Get Back"-Handsome Furs

The booming synths and steady groove will keep you awake as you make the journey back home. The lyrics celebrate the idea of returning to an old place with a new sense of self. A few months away may induce change, but it only means familiar faces will have a lot more to learn about.

"Misunderstood"-Wilco

There are, of course, some of us who'd rather not face what was left at home. This barn burner of a song winds its way through several verses of detached musings about old feelings and empty possibilities. Drums crash through the calm atmosphere as the song careens to life and singer Jeff Tweedy growls a caustic thanks for nothing to those who ask for it.

"Rise" - Eddie Vedder

If ever it were possible for a mandolin to be wistful, it occurs in this song. Vedder's voice soars with the emotion of rising up over past mistakes to emerge better than before. This communicates images of travelling home as he sings of going to a place where one can "rise up and find...direction."

"I'm Going Home"-Rocky Horror Picture Show

Returning home after being away for a while can always be a bitter-sweet moment. This song captures a rich sentimentality of the duality of being excited and nervous about leaving new friends and returning to old friends and family. It's a surprisingly beautiful song from a strange source, just like returning home can be a surprisingly beautiful moment.

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France continued from page 1

Investigators identified the mastermind behind the attacks as Abdelhamid Abaaoud, 27, from Molenbeek, Belgium, who is now in Syria. The French newspaper Le Monde reported that Abaaoud had become friends with Salah Abdeslam when the two were in jail for armed robberies in 2010. French officials said Sunday they are seeking Abdeslam as the eighth attacker in Friday's mayhem.

Abbaaoud joined the Islamic State two years ago under the nom de guerre Abu Omar al-Baljiki. Earlier this year, in Issue No. 7, the Islamic State's Dabiq magazine interviewed him about his efforts and he reportedly answered: "Allah chose me (and two others) to travel to Europe in order to terrorize the crusaders waging war against the Muslims."

Abaaoud is thought to have planned several terror attacks in Europe, including the attack on a train from Amsterdam to Paris that was foiled by three Americans from Sacramento, Calif. Earlier this year, a court in Brussels, calling him "the most important recruiter" for the Islamic State, sentenced him in absentia to 20 years in prison.

In his speech, Hollande admitted the plans he'd outlined would be ambitious. For one, he said, they would require the United States and Russia to recognize their common goal in opposing terrorism.

Despite four devastating bombings attributed to the Islamic State in the past five weeks in Ankara, Turkey; Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt; Beirut; and now Paris Obama seemed wedded to the current U.S. strategy of airstrikes to weaken the Islamic State.

While he called the Paris attacks a "terrible and sickening setback," he added that no one should lose sight that there is "progress being made."

"They control less territory than they did last year," he said. "And the more we shrink that territory, the less they can pretend that they are somehow a functioning state and the more it becomes apparent that they are simply a network of killers who are brutal-

izing local populations."

It also would reduce the flow of foreign fighters, he said.

The logic of his remarks was that by completely eliminating the Islamic State's presence in Raqqa, its self-declared capital in Syria, there would be no more recruits and a drastically reduced threat. He added that his critics were trying to take political potshots at him and weren't serious.

"I can't afford to play some of the political games that others may," he said. He challenged critics to produce an alternative plan. "Folks (who) want to pop off and have opinions about what they think they would do, present a specific plan," he said.

Putin said stopping the financing of terror had to be a world priority. "The war on terror is crucial," he said, noting that Russian spy photographs show the true and enormous size of the illegal oil trade that is financing the Islamic State. "Especially after the Paris tragedy, we all understand that the means of financing terrorism should be severed."

Hollande said eradicating the Islamic State also would require a new commitment from his countrymen. He reiterated that the bombing campaign that France initiated on Sunday against the Islamic State "will be merciless," and he ordered a French aircraft carrier into the eastern Mediterranean, which he said would triple French air power in the region.

But he said France had to be prepared to make lasting change. He asked the Assembly to approve a beefed-up defense budget, something that could put the French budget at odds with European Union rules on the level of debt member nations can include in their budgets.

"I consider that in these circumstances, the security pact prevails over the stability pact," he said.

He called specifically for an additional 5,000 police nationwide.

He also called for changes to the French constitution that would allow the nation to strip dual-nationality French of their French citizenship, if that is



Locator map of Raqqa, Syria where French airstrike targets Islamic militant targets

deemed to be in the interests of anti-terrorism efforts. In this, he was addressing the large and increasing number of young French who have been heading to Syria to fight with the Islamic State. At least two of the eight suspects in Friday's attack are thought to be in that group. Denying them French citizenship would hamper their ability to re-enter the European Union.

"It's cruel to say, but those are French citizens who have killed other French citizens," he said.

As for others living in France, he asked for laws to speed up the deportation of those who represent a "grave threat to the security of the nation."

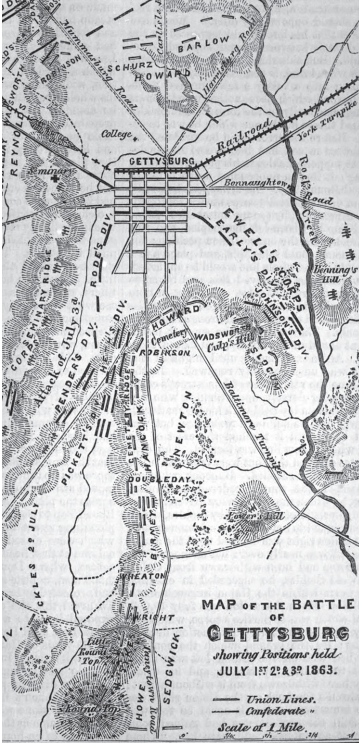
He also asked the National Assembly to pass new laws increas-

ing penalties for those involved in arms trafficking, a particular worry in France after two large-scale terror attacks in 2015 that were carried out with illegally obtained weapons. The first of those attacks, the January killings that began with an attack on the offices of the satirical newspaper Charlie Hebdo, were carried out with weapons bought in Belgium as were the weapons used in Friday night's attacks.

Hollande also said France would require the European Union to beef up its external border controls or face a return to tight internal border controls. He noted that internal border controls would mean "the dismantling of the European Union."

This day in history

By: DANIELLE STALLWORTH



On Nov. 19, 1863, President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address at the dedication of a military burial site in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

Resulting in over 45,000 casualties, the Battle of Gettysburg was the bloodiest battle in the American Civil War.

It was also the turning point of the war and the beginning of the South's decline in power. General Robert E. Lee retreated from Gettysburg, and the Confederate army did not invade any Northern regions from that point.

In his brief yet moving speech, Lincoln honored the men who died in the three-day battle and reminded his audience of why the Union had to continue to fight and win the war.

It became one of the most renowned speeches in U.S. history.

Opposition grows to Obama’s plan to accept Syrian refugees

By: MARIA RECIO and HANNAH ALLAM, McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON- The Obama administration’s plan to admit 10,000 Syrian refugees in the next year, criticized as too small and too slow by refugee advocates, came under full-on assault Monday from Republican politicians who said the plan risked U.S. security.

The Republican determination to cripple the plan came as reports circulated that at least one of the suspects in Friday night’s Paris attacks may have slipped into Europe from Syria.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., said Monday he would “immediately address this particular situation,” as lawmakers considered using an end-of-the-year funding bill to curb the plan to admit more Syrian refugees.

Ryan has asked House committees involved in refugee policy to come up with recommendations, and for the administration to provide a classified briefing on the Syrian situation for all members of Congress.

“For over a year we’ve been asking for an overarching strategy to combat ISIS. We don’t have one,” he said Monday on “Bill Bennett’s Morning in America,” a conservative radio show.

House Homeland Security Committee Chairman Mike McCaul, R-Texas, wrote to Obama asking him to suspend admitting Syrian refugees. “We remain concerned that these resettlements are taking place without appropriate regard for the safety of the American people,” he wrote.

Rep. Kay Granger, R-Texas, who chairs a subcommittee that funds foreign operations, said: “We cannot allow Syrian refugees in the United States in the

current dangerous environment.”

In the Senate, Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Ala., chairman of the Senate’s immigration subcommittee, said he’ll push for a separate vote on Obama’s refugee plan, while a group of center-right senators from both parties wrote Obama urging him to more carefully screen refugees.

“While our country has a long history of welcoming refugees and has an important role to play in the heartbreaking Syrian refugee crisis, our first and most important priority must be to ensure that any refugee who comes to the United States does not present a threat to the American people,” the senators wrote.

Among those signing the letter were Sens. Mark Kirk, R-Ill., and Kelly Ayotte, R-N.H., who both face tough re-election fights next year; and Sens. Joni Ernst, R-Iowa, Shelley Moore Capito, R-W.Va., Dan Coats, R-Ind., and Joe Manchin, D-W.Va.

Meanwhile, Republican governors from Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Michigan, Mississippi, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Ohio, Texas and Wisconsin joined in opposition to relocating any Syrian refugees to their states. They were joined by the Democratic governor of New Hampshire.

President Barack Obama defended accepting refugees. At a news conference in Turkey, where he was attending a Group of 20 meeting, he became testy with questions about his policies and took aim at some Republican presidential candidates for saying only Christian refugees should have asylum.

He said that suggestion from Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas and former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush only Syrian Christians be admitted to

the U.S. was un-American.

“When I hear folks say that maybe we should just admit the Christians but not the Muslims, when I hear political leaders suggesting that there would be a religious test for which person who is fleeing from a war-torn country is admitted, when some of those folks themselves come from families who benefited from protection when they were fleeing political persecution, that’s shameful,” Obama said.

“That’s not American. That’s not who we are.”

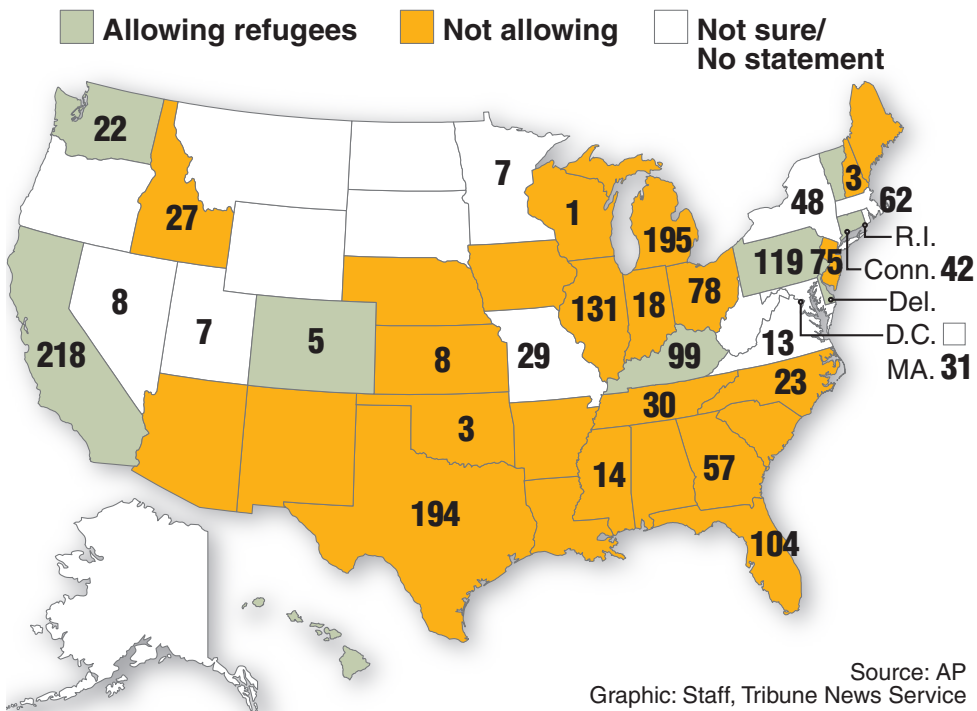
That view was seconded by Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., the ranking minority member of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

“When the world is experiencing a refugee crisis of a magnitude not seen since the end of World War II, are we to abandon allies and partners awash with refugees and refuse to do our part?” Schiff said in a statement.

“To turn our backs on those escaping persecution, many of them religious minorities, runs counter to the proud and gener-

States that plan to accept Syrian refugees

Here’s a look at where state governors stand, and the number of Syrian refugees who have arrived in each state since Jan. 1, according to the U.S. State Department’s Refugee Processing Center:



ous heritage of a United States that has always helped those in need during turbulent times.”

Governors seemed particularly opposed to the administration’s resettlement plans. Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan of New Hampshire said her state would not accept Syrian refugees. She joined other Republican governors that included Greg Abbott of Texas and Bobby Jindal of Louisiana, who is running for president.

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory asked for more information about any refugees that would go to his state. “My primary duty as governor is

to keep the citizens of North Carolina safe,” he said at a news conference.

However, some Democratic governors, including John Hickenlooper of Colorado, and the governors of Pennsylvania and Washington said they would accept the Syrian refugees.

“We will work with the federal government and Homeland Security to ensure the national verification processes for refugees are as stringent as possible. We can protect our security and provide a place where the world’s most vulnerable can rebuild their lives,” Hickenlooper said in a statement.

Democrats: ‘We lack a clear message’

By: DAVID LIGHTMAN and SAM YOUNGHAM, McClatchy Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON- Democrats “were not connecting with voters” in recent elections, a party report concluded Tuesday, a trend driven home by the party’s surprising loss of the Kentucky governor’s office this month.

“We lack a clear message about what unites and animates us as Democrats,” the Democratic Victory Task Force said.

“This has contributed to a disjointed style of communicating through long lists of policy statements, which are not well understood or embraced by voters,” the panel said, while insisting that most support those policies.

The Democrats’ loss of the Kentucky governor’s office in this month’s election where they had led in pre-election polls capped a string of losses since 2008.

While Democrats won the White House twice in the last seven years, they have lost 69 seats in the House of Representatives, 13 seats in the Senate, more than 900 seats in state legislatures, 13 governorships and 30 state legislative chambers. Last year, it lost control of both houses of Congress; Republicans have a 246-188 majority in the House of Representatives and control 54 of the Senate’s 100 seats.

The outgoing Democratic governor of Kentucky, who did not seek re-election because of term limits, was among those warning of party problems for months and a co-author of the new analysis.

“The Democratic Party has lost its way,” Gov. Steve Beshear warned at a Democratic National Committee meeting in February.

“In order to win elections, the Democratic Party must reclaim voters that we’ve lost, including white Southern voters,” a party task force reported at the time.

So why, Beshear was asked Tuesday, didn’t Kentucky Democrats heed his own warnings? Or adopt some of the report’s suggestions?

“As we pointed out, this is a work in progress,” he said of the study. “And lots of it started to be implemented in Kentucky.” He said there were several factors that contributed to Republican Matt Bevin’s surprising win, including “a historically low turnout.”

He also noted “the factors that caused the Republican to be successful in Kentucky, including running as an outsider, against the establishment, running against the president.” He cited Democratic victories in two other statewide races.

“I don’t think you can take any one of those factors and say it conclusively shows we’ve got to change this or change that in order to win elections,” said Beshear.

Republicans were quick to pounce.

“It’s only fitting that this report was led by a Democrat governor whose seat was just picked up by Republicans and that their proposed state-level efforts will be led by another Democrat governor (Virginia’s Terry McAuliffe) who lost critical legislative races this November,” said Republican National Committee Chairman Reince Priebus.

Democrats in Kentucky have turned on one another in an intensifying blame game. Matt Jones, a popular sports talk host being recruited by the Democratic Congressional Campaign

Committee to run against Rep. Andy Barr, R-Ky., took to his Kentucky Sports Radio show after the election to blast his party.

Jones assailed the Kentucky Democratic Party for running candidates who “don’t relate to Kentuckians.” He and many other Democrats in the state also blame President Barack Obama, who he said “killed the Democratic Party.”

Adam Edelen, a casualty of Kentucky’s Republican wave, wasn’t so sure about the path forward. Until Election Day, Edelen was the Democrats’ rising star, the state auditor enjoying bipartisan praise as Kentucky’s tax watchdog and preparing for a U.S. Senate run against Rand Paul next year.

Then a little-known and vastly underfunded Republican state representative beat Edelen.

In the days since the Kentucky election, a number of Democrats have been angry that so many of the counties that voted for Bevin are among those that have benefited most from Beshear’s decision to implement the Affordable Care Act in the state, a decision that Bevin has said he plans to reverse.

The Democrats’ 18-page blueprint for change includes developing and communicating a “clear, values-based message on the core tenets of the party,” as well as strengthening the nuts and bolts that make a party run. The party has significantly increased funding it provides to state parties and implemented training programs for state party executive directors.

It’s also beefed up efforts to use social media and invested in targeting sympathetic voters.

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Students awarded at Senior Elite night

By: REED STRENGTH, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



SGA President Jacob Gordon bestows a Senior Elite medal on one student during the annual ceremony on Nov. 11. Donnie Bennett/ The Alabamian

On the evening of Wednesday, Nov. 11, Palmer auditorium filled with sharply dressed students, parents and faculty. It was the Senior Elite Night, an annual event held by the University to celebrate student achievements.

Tammi Dahle, The Dean of Students, welcomed the small gathered crowd. She commended those receiving awards and thanked the rest of the audience for attending.

Senior Class President Hunter Huie then stepped up to announce the night's dedication. This year, psychology professor John Burling received the award.

Ruth Truss, the history and social sciences department chair, then got on stage to speak on Burling's behalf. She shared how Burling signed off every email with either "be well" or "hang in there" and wished her colleague the former.

Burling then took the stage to accept the award. He thanked

the senior class for their vote and stated his best moments at the University were befriending the many students he taught.

The current College Night Side Leaders were also honored, but all four were not present due to a dress rehearsal of "The Rocky Horror Show."

Student Government Association President Jacob Gordon took the stage to honor each member of this year's SGA Cabinet.

As the SGA members left the front of the stage, Huie took the stage again to announce the Montevallo Masters.

Next, Dahle returned to recognize the Mr. and Mrs. Montevallo finalists. However, only two of the finalists, Kyle McDonald and Allie Crook, stood at the front. The College Night leaders were the other four vying for the title and were not present due to appearances in "The Rocky Horror Show."

Dahle remained on stage to announce those students elected to the Who's Who Among Students In American Universities & Colleges. A total of 22 students received the honor.

Finally, The Deans for each college, with Dr. Houston Byrd filling in for Arts & Sciences, took the stage to announce the names of this year's Senior Elites for each major.

Each of the honored students received a certificate and medal before standing at the lip of the stage. The Senior Elites will have the option to wear their medals with their graduation robes during commencement. After all of the names were called for each college, the recipients received a round of applause.

A small reception was held in the lobby for the honored and their guests. Family and friends gave congratulatory hugs and posed for pictures with the award winners.

Job fair brings opportunities to campus

By: LILY ELMORE, ONLINE EDITOR

Tables showcasing 17 local organizations looking for interns and volunteers lined the walls of Anna Irvin Dining Hall on Tuesday, Nov. 10 for the Experiential Education and Internship Fair.

Hosted by Service Learning and the Career Development Center, the fair offered students time to network and learn more about the community groups that participated in the event.

Service Learning and the Career Development Center hoped students would enjoy learning how serving the community can translate into job experience. Angie Kelly, director of the Career Development Center, talked about the importance of the fair's networking aspects.

"There's no better way to be prepared for the job market. The networks you make are really equally important to your degree," said Kelly.

Service Learning Coordinator Aimee Mellon said that an internship or experiential education opportunity is "more than volunteer work."

"It's a chance to realize your passion for a cause or group while giving back to your community," said Mellon.

The fair featured organizations with needs fulfillable by students from many majors and skillsets.

The Oak Mountain Wildlife Center was mainly focused on

recruiting environmental studies students to work in their education and rehabilitation programs but also on business and communications majors to assist in their office work.

Falcon Scholars in Action, especially, touted any major was the right major for their program. As Falcon Scholars, students are matched with an organization in their fields of interest, and the Shelby County based groups with whom the program partners offer opportunities in many areas.

However, the benefits of the fair were not limited to the students. Representatives from the organizations consistently referred to Montevallo students as valuable assets.

Angela Moore of Ameri-corps said that UM students were "amazing." She continued, saying that her organization appreciates "the foundation of broad level thinking and service that they receive from the university."

Maribeth Bowman of the child advocacy group Owen's House agreed. "We have a long history with getting interns from UM, especially counseling and social work majors," she said.

Students looking for help in navigating career options and service work opportunities are encouraged to visit the Career Development Center, located on the second floor of Farmer Hall or to contact the Service Learning program at 205-665-6077.

The 'world' defeats Patton in trivia contest

By: DANIELLE STALLWORTH

On Thursday, Nov. 5, students gathered at Farmer Stage for the chance to compete against philosophy professor Michael Patton in a trivia competition called Dr. Patton vs. The World.

The event was sponsored by the Montevallo Honors Organization and the Honors Program. Students, faculty and staff could compete solo or in teams of up to four.

"I applaud the event organizers for bringing all these victims to me," Patton said as he took his place on the stage.

He reminded everyone that since he had already defeated "the world" twice, he had a few demands: a bowl of only green

M&M's and, jokingly, for Dr. Scott Varagona to be banned from competing.

Host Colton Vandiver explained the rules of the game to the nine participating teams and the audience. There were nine categories containing five questions. Patton and the teams had five minutes to write down their answers on a notecard.

Members of the MHO then collected the cards and tallied everyone's points while Vandiver revealed the answers. Teams were also allowed to argue their answers.

The categories ranged from sports and entertainment to local history. Answer reveals were met with cheers and defeated groans while Patton taunted the par-

ticipants and insisted that they second-guess their first instincts.

"I'm just taking a picture of the crowd to go into the Hall of Shame," Patton said, brandishing his smartphone.

By intermission time, Patton was in third place and Team V for Varagona was in second place. The Harpies and The Knights Who Say Ni were tied for first place.

After a brief break, the teams reconvened for the final two rounds. At the end of the game, there was a three-way tie for the win. Patton, V for Varagona and The Knights Who Say Ni all had 21 points and went on to compete in the sudden death round.

Vandiver asked the two teams and Patton three new questions.



(L to R) Dr. Benton Tyler, Kami Gothard, Dr. Stefan Forrester and V for Varagona namesake Dr. Scott Varagona managed a world wide victory by bringing down Dr. Michael Patton in a trivia contest for the ages.

After collecting their answer cards, the MHO calculated their points and revealed that V for Varagona had won the game.

The team consisted of Dr. Scott Varagona, Dr. Stefan Forrester, Dr. Benton Tyler and student Kami Gothard.

Calendar of Events			
<p><i>Thursday, November 19</i></p> <p>3:30 p.m. Safe Zone Training Wills 200</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Panhellenic Dessert Playoff Farmer Hall stage</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Common Ground Baptist Campus Ministry</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Intramural Basketball Games Bibb Graves Gym</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Order of Omega Initiation Farmer Hall</p> <p>7:08 p.m. Alpha Kappa Alpha Step Show Palmer Hall</p> <p><i>Friday, November 20</i></p> <p>7:06 Alpha Phi Alpha Step Show Palmer Hall</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Opera Scenes LeBaron</p> <p>10:00 p.m. Alpha Party Student Retreat</p> <p>10:00 p.m. Zeta Phi Beta An All That Affair Student Retreat</p>	<p><i>Saturday, November 21</i></p> <p>7:30 p.m. Opera Scenes LeBaron Recital Hall</p> <p><i>Monday, November 23</i></p> <p>10:00 a.m. Zeta Phi Beta Diaper Donation Table Cafeteria</p> <p>10:00 a.m. National Student Speech Language Hearing Association Bake Sale Farmer Hall</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Intramural Basketball Games Bibb Graves Gym</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Woodwind Chamber Ensembles LeBaron Recital</p> <p><i>Tuesday, November 24</i></p> <p>6:00 p.m. Intramural Basketball Games Bibb Graves Gym</p> <p><i>Wednesday, November 25</i></p> <p>Residence Halls close at 8 a.m.</p>	<p><i>Sunday, November 29</i></p> <p>Residence Halls open at 2 p.m.</p> <p><i>Tuesday, December 1</i></p> <p>3:00 p.m. Write for Rights - Amnesty International Farmer Hall Meeting Room</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Men's Basketball vs. Stillman Trustmark Arena</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Choral Christmas Concert American Village</p> <p><i>Wednesday, December 2</i></p> <p>6:00 p.m. B.O.N.D's Cookies and Cards Comer 308</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Women's Basketball vs. Miles Trustmark Arena</p> <p><i>Thursday, December 3</i></p> <p>6:00 p.m. Common Ground Baptist Capmus Ministry</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Wind Ensemble Palmer Auditorium</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p><i>Mondays</i></p> <p>4:00 p.m. Amnesty International Meeting UMOM 220</p> <p>4:30 p.m. Montevallo Honors Organization Meetings Ramsay Hall Classroom</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Spectrum (GSA) Meetings Farmer Hall Meeting Room</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Korean Culture Club Meeting Reynolds 226</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Anime Club Meeting Harman 119</p> <p><i>Tuesdays</i></p> <p>8:00 p.m. Resonate Worship Service Baptist Campus Ministry</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Secular Student Alliance Meeting Morgan-Comer Commuter Lodge</p> <p><i>Wednesdays</i></p> <p>11:00 a.m. Café Escape Baptist Campus Ministry</p> <p>3:30 p.m. Psych Club Meeting Comer 303 Psychology Lounge</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Feminist Majority Leadership Alliance Meeting Reynolds 226</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Chess Club Meeting Hill House Classroom</p> <p>8:00 p.m. Whovian Society Meeting Comer 205</p> <p><i>Thursdays</i></p> <p>6:30 p.m. University of Montevallo Cosplay Association Meeting Comer 308</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Harry Potter Club Meeting Comer 205</p>

Fashion on the bricks

By: JASMYNE RAY, MANAGING EDITOR OF CONTENT

With the weather flirting with the idea of winter, now is the time to get the most out of your short sleeves and shorts. From sunny 70s to chilly 50s, let the subtle chill in the air relax your style like sophomore Sydney Zari does.

The speech pathology major marches to the beat of her own drum when it comes to fashion, however she does stay up to date on what’s going on in the fashion world.

“It’s not really important for me to follow trends,” Zari said. “I kind of like to put together whatever I think looks good.”

Zari’s style has evolved from preppy in high school to a more boho chic look. The ultimate goal is to be comfortable.

“I guess ever since I got to Montevallo my clothing style kind of molded to the personality of the school,” Zari explained.

For weekends, she’ll get a bit dressier if she has plans. “If I’m going out for a dinner date, I’ll get really dressed up and do my hair,” she adds.



Jasmyne Ray/ The Alabamian

“I’ll probably wear heavier makeup and more form-fitting clothing.”

She occasionally looks to celebrities like Kendall Jenner and Vanessa Hudgens for inspiration, but isn’t entirely dependent on celebrities for fashion tips.

“If you’re trying to achieve a style that celebrities have, it’s going to be way too expensive because there’s no way you can get the same clothes as them,” Zari said.

To get Sydney’s look you can browse around stores like Free People and Anthropologie for more bohemian pieces, but Zari’s favorite store is Forever 21 because of their inexpensive, but stylish pieces.

“I try to just look for really good deals and clothes that I know will be able to go with any outfit,” Zari said. Cheap chic is a trend that everyone can get behind.

Review: The Rocky Horror Show

By:GABE GANNON



The cast of the “Rocky Horror Show” gives a final sweet long goodbye during the show’s curtain call.

Reynolds Hall was filled with an expansive crowd on the night of Wednesday, Nov. 11, the opening night of UM Theatre Department’s production of “The Rocky Horror Show.” The crowd was filled with a wide range of observers, from older community members to students who had arrived in their finest Rocky-esque garb.

Ushers made it clear immediately upon entering that this show was heavy on fan participation, news that was simultaneously thrilling and nerve wracking. There were inserts in the program called “cheat sheets” that detailed certain lines that were to be answered during the course of the show, and a booth sold fan participation kits, or “prop bags,” for three dollars each.

Having never before experienced the cult classic film which many in the crowd were obviously not only familiar with but excessively fond of, it was strangely intimidating to be surrounded by so many participants who understood what exactly was about to occur.

From the moment I entered the theater and found my seat, I was captured by the tangible excitement that filled the room. The nervous energy of an opening night coupled with obvious excitement of the show’s fans filled the space.

Patrons were treated to a time warp tutorial shortly before the show began, and we were instructed on the specifics of the call-and-response dialogue and the timing of using the fan participation kits. The lights then dimmed, and Richard O’Brien’s enduring creation began.

Kendra Johnson entered the auditorium and kicked off the show with a sultry and spectacular rendition of “Science Fiction Double Feature,” and then the story began. The setup of the stage was innovative and engaging, utilizing two screens on both sides of the stage upon which actors interfaced phones to projectors, allowing the performance to achieve a cinematic quality through dynamic angles and close-ups of the characters.

As it was the opening night, it was not surprising when this system was not foolproof. Occasionally, the plot was affected by the technical difficulties, as there was a scene where Janet was supposed to see Brad betraying her, but it never actually appeared on the screen. While these moments were frustrating for both cast and audience, the actors recovered well and continued the show.

I had seen many images referencing the film interpretation and the characters did not look like what I expected to see.

Personally, I enjoyed the funky wigs and eccentrically colored costumes, though I heard several comments following the show that questioned this decision.

Michael Cleary and Shelley McMoy shined as the starry-eyed Brad and Janet, who find themselves just a little turned around in the beginning of the musical.

The real fun begins as they make their way to Frank n’ Furter’s castle and are changed by the raunchy characters they find there.

Spectacular performances were given by all involved, from the daring and dynamic Chris Sams’ portrayal of Frank n’ Furter, to Nick Stokes’ overtly masculine and scantily clad Rocky, I was struck by just how much talent is to be found in Montevallo. The musical numbers featured tight harmonies and flawless choreography, all putting together an extremely entertaining show.

As mentioned previously, this story was new to me and I feel that there were a few moments where I was confused by plot progression. For instance, one aspect of the show that was particularly baffling was a scene where James Powers portrayed both Eddie and Dr. Scott.

Powers delivered solid performances of both characters, slipping from the ghostly form of Eddie to the heavily accented Dr. Scott, but having him appear as both characters sequentially on stage made for a moment of puzzlement as I tried to piece together who was who in the story.

I feel that had I already been familiar with the story and been a fan of it, I would have found the experience to be more rich, though admittedly not an amount significant enough for a radically different viewing experience.

It was apparent that the show did hold more nostalgia for those who had attended events similar to this before, such as screenings of “The Rocky Horror Picture Show.” Though I experienced moments of confusion, I enjoyed every bawdy, goofy moment and am ready to do the time warp again.

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Students perform at Java and Jazz event

By: GABE GANNON



Donnie Bennett/ The Alabamian

The Java and Jazz performers managed to raise around \$80 for the UM chapter of the National Association for Music Education.

Students passing by the student retreat on Tuesday, Nov. 10 at 7:30 p.m. heard the lively sounds of jazz emanating from the venue as musically inclined UM students gathered to perform for the benefit of the UM chapter of the National Association for Music Education, or NAFME.

Attendees enjoyed coffee and various desserts as performers kept the mood mellow with soulful tunes and lively swing.

UM NAFME president Tucker Ratcliff called the 4th annual event a “successful tradition” and stated that the nearly \$80 raised by the 70 attendees will go to fund the chapter’s efforts toward sending students to music education conferences as well as providing funding for the group’s service projects.

Ratcliff mentioned that while

the goal of raising money is something the group strives toward, the event serves to “entertain the community of Montevallo.”

The spectators appeared engaged by the acts as many students took the stage to play, such as members of the UM Jazz Band and vocalists Laura Thomas, Calliope Pettis, Mary Arvin, Chelsea Orr and Lexi Womack.

With a quick four count and a nod from Dr. Joe Ardovino, the Jazz Band opened the night with a big band swing tune that elicited foot tapping around the room.

Freshman Gordon Kennedy commented on his appreciation of the event, as it “allows you to get out and experience jazz and big band sounds, which is uncommon to experience. It’s just a really good get together.”

The night allowed listeners

to experience a wide range of sounds, from Alec Lee serenading the room with a smooth ballad on his trombone to vocalists Laura Thomas and Calliope Pettis performing an original number that was written about music professor Dr. Joseph Landers.

The performers were high quality, and they enjoyed being able to experience the night as well.

Freshman Brett Johnson described the expression of jazz as “the perfect outlet for expressing my emotions through my instrument. It is the greatest art form.”

The event was a lively night that allowed the community to come together and appreciate diverse genres while supporting our local music programs.

Renowned Filmmaker Pays Visit to UM on Veterans Day

By: MALIA KORTRIGHT

Emmy-nominated documentary producer Kirk Saduski gave a presentation for the Montevallo community at a UM Fine Arts Marquee event in LeBaron Recital Hall on Wednesday, Oct. 11.

The event was open to students and faculty who were interested in learning from Saduski’s experiences in the film industry.

According to sources at AL.com, Saduski participated in a wreath laying event at The American Village and a dedication ceremony for the Sledge Memorial Outdoor Classroom in honor of late biology professor and former United States Marine Eugene Sledge before his speech in LeBaron.

“The family asked me to come down to the memorial and say a few words, which I was honored to do,” said Saduski.

Saduski is currently an instructor at UCLA, in addition to the Head of Non-Fiction Film and Television at Playtone.

He was the co-producer of “John Adams,” “The Pacific” and “Game Change” for HBO, as well as the executive producer of “Band of Brothers.”

He has also produced several documentaries and is the executive co-producer of a CNN documentary series known as “The Sixties.”

Throughout his presentation, Saduski offered advice to anyone interested in the film industry and cited his previous experience with history, documentaries and filmmaking.

“I fell into a job that exposed me to production, and then I knew some people who were enjoying some success. Now that I was in their field, they invited me to join them,” said Saduski.

In addition to encouraging students to make connections in their



Donnie Bennett/ The Alabamian

Veteran film producer Kirk Saduski discussed his role in making famous projects like “Band of Brothers” and “The Pacific” during a talk in LeBaron Recital Hall on Veterans’ Day.

field, Saduski also urged reading in order to draw inspiration.

“That’s the best piece of advice I can give you. I don’t care what it is; just read. You need to develop an aesthetic. You need to develop your own sense of taste. Read and develop a sense of what a story is. You’re not going to get just from watching television, let alone from watching three minute videos on the internet. I don’t know anyone who is successful in Hollywood who is not an active reader.”

Saduski’s advice resounded with students who were interested in working in the film industry. Many mass communication students viewed this as an opportunity to gain more insight into the career path that they have chosen.

“I was interested in having a big time name being in Montevallo,” said junior Oliver Head. “I was hoping to take away any knowledge in the field of broadcasting that I could.”

Students make furry friends at UPC event

By: LAURA POYTHRESS

On Wednesday, Nov. 4th, students lined up outside Anna Irvin Dining Hall in anticipation of the semi-annual stuff-a-friend event.

Each spring and fall semester, the University Program Council (UPC) hosts this event to allow students a chance to break away from their studies.

According to Roos-evelt Mendez, a junior COMS major and the UPC coordinator, each semester 350 un-stuffed plushes are ordered and as many as 400 students show up.

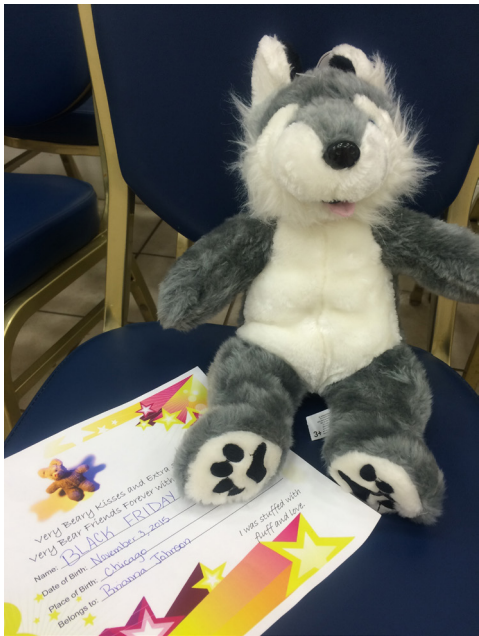
He advises participants to show up “at least 30 minutes early” for future stuff-a-friend events.

Once students entered the foyer, they first a signed in at a table and took an un-stuffed animal of their choice. This semester, students could choose from a husky, a giraffe or a dolphin to stuff with plush filling.

Once they got their animal, students went to a table with little gold plush stars and a large box of filling.

They then stuffed their animals as much or as little as they wished with the filling, but were also able to put a gold star in the animals to serve as a heart or soul.

After stuffing their friend, students filled out a “birth cer-



Laura Poythress/ The Alabamian

This stuffed husky, Black Friday, was one of the many furry friends created during UPC’s “Stuff-a-Friend” event.

tificate,” a sheet of paper for the name of the animal, the date it was “born” or stuffed, where it was born and who the parent or owner is.

Mendez said that in the spring semester, stuff-a-friend will have a lion and a cow for college night and some other animal for green side supporters. “Each fall, we have a whole new set of animals,” said Mendez.

The event is filled with students, young and old, each semester. It has been held each year for more than five years, Mendez said. Senior Ondrea Lee said she participates each time the event rolls around.

“I am part of planning this, but it never gets old. It allows me a chance to feel like a little kid again, and I love it.”

Review: Fallout 4

By: JAKE SMITH, COPY EDITOR



Courtesy of Bethesda Softworks

Known for pushing the boundaries of the RPG genre to their limits, Bethesda Softworks has made a name for itself in the video game industry by crafting fully-realized open worlds packed to the brim with citizens to save and monsters to slay. That trend continues on the stunningly realized “Fallout 4.”

As Bethesda’s official follow-up to 2008’s gargantuan third mainline Fallout game, one would naturally come into a game like “Fallout 4” with nearly sky high expectations. Impressively, this new entry manages to fulfill a great number of these despite faltering occasionally under the weight of its own ambition.

Storywise, “Fallout 4” is a cut above Bethesda’s previous works. Characters here, like the wily detective Nick Valentine and the spunky reporter Piper, are more fully fleshed out than those in the likes of “Fallout 3” or “Skyrim.”

As the player-created main character grows in his or her relationships with these companions, emotionally resonant backstories are revealed and personal quests are unlocked, not unlike the fantastic loyalty missions from Bioware’s “Mass Effect 2.” These missions serve as some of the game’s storytelling highlights.

Meanwhile, the main quest, which follows the kidnapping of the protagonist’s son, Shaun, moves the plot of the game along at a moderate and appropriate pace. However, as is the case with most of Bethesda’s games, the primary storytelling mechanic is actually found in the unique and spontaneous stories told in the player’s moment to moment gameplay.

In terms of that gameplay, “Fall-

out 4” manages to tighten up some of the rougher edges of its predecessor while still preserving a strong core RPG. Gunplay, for instance, is significantly improved here.

I no longer felt as if the Vault Assisted Targeting System (VATS), a time-slowng mechanic used to target specific body parts, was required for me to defeat more difficult enemies. As a first-person shooter, “Fallout 4” is completely competent.

However, some new additions produced mixed results. The perk system, for example, has been drastically simplified. Whereas in “Fallout 3” perks were tied to skill points and “SPECIAL” attributes, now the player is given one giant perk chart with new abilities locked only by the numerical value of a single attribute.

While this certainly streamlines the leveling experience, I found myself occasionally longing for the skill point system of old. It often was simply too complicated to understand why I could or could not pick certain locks or sneak past certain enemies.

These concerns, however, are admittedly minor, and while other elements such as the crafting system and power armor station seem under-realized, I ultimately found myself in awe of the richness of the world, the power of the story and the sheer fun of the gunplay.

While it may not be the forward leap that “Fallout 3” was back in 2008, “Fallout 4” manages to be everything it needs to be and more as an RPG in 2015. Perhaps most importantly, though, I absolutely cannot wait to get back to that post-apocalyptic Bostonian wasteland.